

# Re-Entry information September 2020

## Forestburg School

### Parent Update

#### Message from the Principal:

I know and appreciate the many levels of comfort and anxiety being felt by parents and students as we move to school re-entry. I am hoping that by continuing to provide information updates your questions will either be answered or direction will be provided towards an answer. Two key documents are guiding our schools direction and are linked here. 1. [Alberta K to 12 school re-entry](#) and 2. [BRSD School Re-Entry \(Fall 2020\)](#).

Included in this newsletter are some additional details specific to Forestburg school. Bell Schedules, Calendars, and Gr. 7-12 timetables can be found on our [website](#). Additionally, please feel free to reach out to myself and/or your teacher(s) should you have any further questions.

Forestburg school is here to support you and your child (ren)'s re-entry to learning and looks forward to building our capacity to adapt to our new reality together :)

Mr. Thompson

**NOTICE**  
**LOCKED**  
**DOOR**

All BRSD schools will operate with all exterior doors locked throughout the day. Parents and communities can access the school through appointment only and by declaring that they are COVID symptom free. Please feel free to call or email to make an appointment to access the people you need.

#### Layers of Safety:

- Cohorts—All students k-12 will have homerooms for instruction and lunch and teachers will travel to students.
- Screening—All staff and students will be required to self assess each day with this [screening tool](#).
- Handwashing and Sanitizing—FGS has had 32 sanitization stations installed in hallways with sanitization pumps in all classrooms.
- Cleaning Standards—Additional custodial presence between 10:00-2:00 daily.

### 2019-2020 Textbook Return

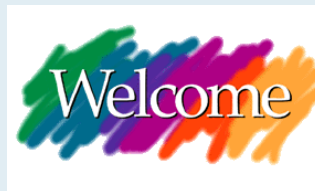
Due to the challenges endured and the precautions taken, with regards to staff and students, only grade 12, and those students known not to be returning for 2020-2021, returned outstanding textbooks last year. We are now able to have all outstanding textbooks, for all grades, returned. Dur-

ing the first two days of school, Sept. 3 and 4th, we ask that all students return their textbooks from last year to their **current** homeroom teacher. If you are choosing an At Home Learning program, we ask that parents return books to the school front foyer. No appointment will be needed to access the school on these two days for this purpose but please be reminded that masks are re-



School Doors will be open to students between the hours of 8:40-9:05 and 12:17-12:45 and will then be locked to all outside access to protect our students and cohort security.

There will be no playground supervision before school. As students arrive after 8:40 they will be directed into the school and to their classroom



#### First Day Welcome

On the First Day I will be outside on bus supervision to welcome students, direct traffic and answer questions as I am able. Staff will be at grade level entries to welcome students and direct them to their classes. Parents and community members will not be allowed access into the school during this time as directed by BRSD protocol.

quired when entering the school. All textbooks are bar-coded and have been signed out to individual students. Books are expensive and we would like to see as many returned as possible. In the event books are not returned, an attempt will be made to contact families but then families will be invoiced for missing resources.

#### Student Entry:

- Kindergarten to Gr. 2** will enter and exit through what was known as the "Bus" entry at the front of the building.
- Grade 3/4** will enter and exit through the same doors as last year, off the playground.
- Grade 5/6** will enter and exit from the West side entry, same as last year.
- Jr High** Front Door access, same as last year;
- Sr. High** same doors as last year.

#### Lockers and Personal Belongings:

To meet physical distancing guidelines and preserve student cohorts Gr 7-12 students **will not** have access to individual lockers. Instead, students will be encouraged to have a backpack and all required books will be able to be stored in their homeroom.

Kindergarten to grade 6 students will have physically distanced lockers to house outdoor clothing only. All other personal items will be expected to remain with them in the classroom.





## Lunch Time and Removal of Microwaves

Forestburg school will operate as an open campus for grade 7-12 students during the lunch break. Meaning, if students choose to leave the school to go home for lunch, that will be permitted and students will be able to re-enter the building. Student gathering between non-cohorted students needs to be discouraged for their protection and will be addressed as a school, should the need arise. Kindergarten to Gr. 6 students will only be able to leave the school grounds at lunch if the "Travel off School Grounds-Parental Direction & Consent" is returned signed

with the Registration Packages.

In order to minimize contact transmission and reduce required cleaning surfaces, all microwaves have been removed from classrooms and will not be available until further notice.

Grade 7-12 students will be required to be either in their home room for the lunch break, be outside, or leave the campus. No transitioning of students can occur within the school at anytime. This measure is required to limit incidental contact between co-

horts. An exception exists with the grade 11's and 12's. As they are cohorted for Bio 20/30 and Phy 20/30, grade 11 and 12 students are permitted to be together in the One-Stop for preps, iStudy courses, and classes as scheduled. Grade 10 students do not have preps, have class time scheduled for iStudy, and are not cohorted with the 11's and 12's. As such, they will not be permitted to be in the One-Stop at any time.



## School Athletics and Footwear Requirements

The decision to initiate School athletics will occur until October. As all ASAA events are currently cancelled, there will be no inter-school or league play. The program will consist of skill development only. COVID protocols will be reviewed with each student and coach prior to launch and student cohort issues will be addressed as we are able.

Elementary Mini-Slammers and Mini-Dunkers will not operate in 2020-2021.

During the summer, both the large gym and small gym had the floors stripped and refinished, they look great! As such, proper foot wear and athletic clothing will be required for all gr. 7-12 Physical Education classes, and proper foot wear for k-6 classes. As grade 7-12 students will not have access to personal lockers, discussions

are still ongoing on how best to address the additional clothing. More information will be communicated with students as this is decided.

"We are Stronger Together"



## Personally Owned Device—Please bring Day 1

Technology has become an integral part of our education system. If you have a student in grade 7-12 and they have a personally owned device, we ask that they please bring them day –1. A personally owned device is defined as a Windows or iOS laptop or a Chromebook. A Tablet or iPad is not defined as a

personally owned device as many apps are not compatible and is generally not user friendly with school programs. For students without a compatible device or who do not have a device, the school will do what it can to make one available to the student during class times. Sharing of devices and the require-

ments of cleaning/disinfecting between each use must be addressed for each common use device.

Discussions are ongoing to see if we can support this same process for grade 4-6. More information will be shared as more is decided.

## Non-Medical Masking

**Non-Medical masks** are required for all staff and Gr. 4 to 12 students in common areas, class transitions, and entering and exiting the school building. Once in their classroom, in rows, and facing the same direction staff and students may safely remove their mask for instruction and independent work time. Should sharing or group work be required, masks must then again be worn. While instructing, teachers do not have to wear masks as long as they maintain

2m distancing. Once teachers begin to circulate or work individually with students, masks will then again be required; for both the safety of the staff member as well as the students.

Does your child(ren) have a bag or container for their mask? Fabric bags are not recommended as they are not easily cleaned. Ziplock bags to carry in their pocket

or a fanny pack are the recommended options. Here is a Video tutorial that you can watch that covers the do's and don't of mask use [Mask Wearing 101](#):



...for allowing the staff of Forestburg school the privilege of continuing to working with your child(ren) during this 2020-2021 school year. The school staff began August 27 planning for their arrival, have three days of Professional Learning, Aug 28-Sept 1, and

have a final staff meeting on September 3rd. Each day they are learning together to be sure we all have the same information in order to prepare ourselves and for students' return to our new classrooms environments.

